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10/582,348

02/22/2007

Uwe Salzer

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12040 SOUTH LAKES DRIVE
SUITE 101
RESTON, VA 20191

EXAMINER

GARRETT, ERIKA P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3636

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/07/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/582,348 | Applicant(s) SALZER,U | |
| | Examiner ERIKA GARRETT | Art Unit 3636 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/22/07 and 6/9/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the “headrest can be extended out of the console” must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as “amended.” If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Harris (4,944,552). Harris discloses the use of aircraft passenger seat (13) with seat components such as a seat part, backrest (figure 1), and at least one console (10) which forms an armrest (12) and which laterally borders the seat part, with a receptacle for a plate (16) which is articulated to by way of an positioning mechanism (figure 6) and can be positioned by the latter out of a neutral position recessed in the console and into a partition position which extends the lateral boundary of the seat part up and which has been moved upward out of the console (10), and out of the partition position into a horizontal position which forms the table surface, characterized in that the positioning mechanism as the support for the plate has an arm (32) which is connected to the console (10) to be pivotable around a first axle (located on 60 , figure 8) and a second (located on 40 figures 7-8) which includes a right angle with it, of which the first axle is configured to be stationary on the console and runs horizontally and perpendicular to the main plane of the console, and that the plate is movably supported on the assigned end of the arm for the displacement motion which runs in the direction of the second axle.

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3. In regards to claim 2, wherein the arm (32) is lengthened on its end assigned to the console by an extension (18) which is articulated to the arm to be pivotable around the second axle.

4. In regards to claim 3, wherein the extension (18) is connected to the console (12) to be pivotable around the first axle.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 4, 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harris in view of Moore (5,374,104). Harris fails to show the use of spring configuration, a cable, guide rails, and guide rollers.

7. Moore teaches the use of a spring configuration (62), a cable (88), and rails (28) and rollers (36) see abstract.

8. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the seat with a spring, cable and guides as taught by Moore, in order to move the plate to the stowed within the armrest.

9. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harris in view of Volkmann (5,791,616). Harris fails to show the use of a helical torsion spring.

10. Volkmann teaches the use of a helical torsion spring (col. 3 lines 60-65).

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11. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the spring to be torsion spring as taught by Volkmann, in order to swivel the plate for use.

12. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harris in view of Davis (5,312,160). Harris fails to show the use of a headrest extended out of the console.

13. Davis teaches the use of headrest (10) can be extended out of the console (col.2 lines 1-10).

14. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the seat with a headrest as taught by Davis, in order to give the passenger comfort in the seated position.

Conclusion

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to a passenger seat: U.S Pat. No. 5179447, 6793281, 4852940, 51795709.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ERIKA GARRETT whose telephone number is (571)272-6859. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Dunn can be reached on 571-272-6670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/E. G./

Examiner, Art Unit 3636

January 5, 2009

/DAVID DUNN/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3636